Scripture for Our Time

God's Sabbath a Sign forever

Exodus 19, 20 & 31

God's Sabbath

Exodus 19

In the third month, when the children of Israel
were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same
day came they into the wilderness of Sinai. **2** For they
were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the
desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and
there Israel camped before the mount. **3** And Moses
went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him
out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to
the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; **4** Ye
have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how
I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto
myself. **5** Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice
indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a
peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the

earth is mine: **6** And ye shall be unto me a kingdom
of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words
which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

7 And Moses came and called for the elders
of the people, and laid before their faces all these
words which the LORD commanded him. **8** And all
the people answered together, and said, All that the
LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned
the words of the people unto the LORD. **9** And the
LORD said unto Moses, Lo, I come unto thee in a
thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak
with thee, and believe thee for ever. And Moses told
the words of the people unto the LORD.

10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the
people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow,
and let them wash their clothes, **11** And be ready
against the third day: for the third day the LORD will
come down in the sight of all the people upon mount
Sinai. **12** And thou shalt set bounds unto the people

round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye
go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it:
whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to
death: **13** There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall
surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast
or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth
long, they shall come up to the mount.

14 And Moses went down from the mount
unto the people, and sanctified the people; and
they washed their clothes. **15** And he said unto the
people, Be ready against the third day: come not at
your wives.

16 And it came to pass on the third day in the
morning, that there were thunders and lightnings,
and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of
the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people
that was in the camp trembled. **17** And Moses
brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with
God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount.

18 And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke,
because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the
smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace,
and the whole mount quaked greatly. **19** And when
the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed
louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered
him by a voice. **20** And the LORD came down upon
mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the LORD
called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses
went up. **21** And the LORD said unto Moses, Go
down, charge the people, lest they break through
unto the LORD to gaze, and many of them perish.
22 And let the priests also, which come near to the
LORD, sanctify themselves, lest the LORD break forth
upon them. **23** And Moses said unto the LORD, The
people cannot come up to mount Sinai: for thou
chargedst us, saying, Set bounds about the mount,
and sanctify it. **24** And the LORD said unto him,
Away, get thee down, and thou shalt come up, thou,

and Aaron with thee: but let not the priests and the
people break through to come up unto the LORD, lest
he break forth upon them. **25** So Moses went down
unto the people, and spake unto them.

Exodus 20

And God spake all these words, saying, **2** I am the
LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the
land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. **3** Thou
shalt have no other gods before me. **4** Thou shalt not
make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of
any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the
earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.
5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve
them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God,
visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children
unto the third and fourth generation of them that
hate me; **6** And shewing mercy unto thousands of
them that love me, and keep my commandments.

7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God
in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that
taketh his name in vain. **8 Remember the sabbath
day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days shalt thou labour,
and do all thy work: 10 But the seventh day is the
sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do
any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy
manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle,
nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: 11 For
in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the
sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh
day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day,
and hallowed it.**

12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy
days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy
God giveth thee. 13 Thou shalt not kill. 14 Thou shalt
not commit adultery. 15 Thou shalt not steal. 16 Thou
shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. 17
Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt

not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant,
nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any
thing that is thy neighbour's.

18 And all the people saw the thunderings, and
the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the
mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they
removed, and stood afar off. 19 And they said unto
Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let
not God speak with us, lest we die. 20 And Moses
said unto the people, Fear not: for God is come to
prove you, and that his fear may be before your
faces, that ye sin not. 21 And the people stood afar
off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness
where God was.

Exodus 31

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 13 Speak
thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily
my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between

me and you throughout your generations; that ye
may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.
14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy
unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be
put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein,
that soul shall be cut off from among his people.
15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh
is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever
doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be
put to death. **16** Wherefore the children of Israel shall
keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout
their generations, for a perpetual covenant. **17** It is a
sign between me and the children of Israel for ever:
for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and
on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

18 And he gave unto Moses, when he had made
an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai,
two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with
the finger of God.

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